

Sustainable Natural Resources Funding for Iowa

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 -- Committee Meeting Agenda Urbandale Library Mtg Room B – Urbandale, IA

Urbandale Library, 3520 86th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322

Committee members present:

Mark	Ackelson	Present	Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Dan	Cohen	Present	IACCB
Dick	Dearden	Absent	IA Senate-Democrat
Barbara	Finch	Absent	Iowa Farm Bureau
Jon	Kruse	Present	Ducks Unlimited
Richard	Leopold	Present	IA Dept of Natural Resources
Lola	Lopes	Absent	The Nature Conservancy
Mary	Lundby	Absent	Iowa Senate - Republican
Pauline	Novotny	Absent	Izaak Walton League of Iowa
Jane	Clark	Present	Sierra Club
Marian	Riggs-Gelb	Absent	Iowa Environmental Council
Henry	Rayhons	Absent	Iowa House of Representatives-Republican
Deb	Ryun	Absent	Conservation Districts of Iowa
Marvin	Shirley	Present	Farmers Union
Jim	Gillespie	Absent	Secretary of Agriculture
Dave	Van Waus	Absent	Pheasants Forever
John	Whitaker	Absent	IA House of Representatives-Democrat
tbd		Absent	Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

Committee Support Staff

Kim	Rasler	IA DNR / SF Support
Doug	Harr	IA DNR / SF Support
Peter	Fritzell	IA DNR / SF Support

Public present:

Angela	Grover	TNC
Andrew	Hug	Environment Iowa
Matthew	Davis	Environment Iowa
Duane	Sand	INHF
Tammie	Krausman	IA DNR

WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS, INTRODUCTIONS – RICHARD LEOPOLD

Introductions were made of those attending the meeting.

At the 01/28/08 Interim Committee (IC) meeting, the legislators reviewed and deliberated on items listed in their draft report to the Legislative Council. They voted unanimously on all 5

points with some inquiries and recommendations to enhance some of those points. On the 5th item, they discussed and caucused on the funding mechanism and voted to propose the 3/8 of 1 penny sales tax for natural resources to be brought before the people for a vote. To date, the IC's final report has not been posted to their website or presented to the Legislative Council.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE/MAKING THE PLAN - ANGIE GROVER, TNC

Angie presented direction and suggestions for the next steps the SFC should take. The SFC discussed the role of this Advisory Committee, the role the SF "Coalition," and what each role will entail.

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS:

The SFC will notify their respective organization of the SF initiative status and inform and educate others. Talking points will be drafted to include the brainstormed ideas of: let the people decide, 3/8 cent sales tax for natural resources, a majority of Iowans surveyed believe we need to dedicate more \$ for natural resources, a majority of Iowans surveyed believe everyone should pay, assure of a more secure funding source to clean up our water, research shows greater economic return, the three categories: parks/trails, soil/water, wildlife/fish/natural areas, it is a secure funding source to be able to do some long range planning; it allows us to reduce the backlog of projects waiting, politicians won't be able to reallocate the money if constitutionally protected, tell stories about situations, and Iowa's second to last in natural resource spending.

The timeframe was discussed and the SFC recognized the next 6 weeks will be critical in supporting the initiative. The process of getting a bill passed through two different sessions, such as 2008 and 2009, was reiterated to facilitate the possibility of putting the vote to the people after the 2009 session.

To help direct questions coming in and to provide a list of general spokespersons of the SFC, the members at today's meeting identified Dan Cohen, Mark Ackelson, Barb Finch, Marvin Shirley, and Jon Kruse as main contacts although all SFC members are on the list as contacts.

NEW ASSIGNMENTS:

- * Create a talking points sheet: Kim with SFC input.
- * SFC will meet/inform their respective organizations of the status of the initiative.
- * Update ICN contact database and provide to Jane Clark: Kim
- * SFC to explore the possibility of an intern to assist in the initiative.
- * Important: for the next 6 weeks, Jane Clark will be the "hub" for communications and updates.

NEXT MEETING: Tentative: 03/05/08, Time and Location TBD

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:00p